

SB 26 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Human Services

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Meeting Dates: 1/24, 1/31

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Health Authority to discharge employees upon substantiation of claim they physically or sexually abused a patient or client. Declares emergency; effective on passage.

Revenue: No revenue impact.

Fiscal: No fiscal impact.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Process for substantiated abuse claims
- Background checks during hiring process

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) was established as a state agency in 2009 through House Bill 2009. The director of OHA or a designee of the director is authorized to appoint, suspend, or discharge any employee. Senate Bill 26 requires employees to be discharged if a claim that they have physically or sexually abused a patient or client is substantiated.